SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1998

96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE FRANZ.

6269L.01I

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal sections 143.790, 302.302, and 302.291, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof seven new sections relating to health care services and fees, with penalty provisions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 143.790, 302.302, and 302.291, RSMo, are repealed and seven new

- 2 sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 143.789, 143.790, 302.302, 302.291,
- 3 304.890, 304.892, and 304.894, to read as follows:
 - 143.789. The director of the department shall have the authority to impose an offset against a refund owed to any taxpayer for the following items and in the following order
- 3 of priority:

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- (1) Delinquent taxes owed by the taxpayer to the state of Missouri;
- (2) Debts owed by such taxpayer to any state agency or support obligation owed by such taxpayer which is enforced by the division of family services on behalf of a person who is receiving support enforcement services under section 454.425;
 - (3) Collection assistance fees authorized under section 143.790;
- (4) Eligible claims under section 143.790; and
- 10 (5) Delinquent taxes owed by the taxpayer to the United States.
 - 143.790. 1. [Any hospital or health care provider who has provided health care services
- 2 to an individual who was not covered by a health insurance policy or was not eligible to receive
- 3 benefits under the state's medical assistance program of needy persons, Title XIX, P.L. 89-97,
- 4 1965 amendments to the federal Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 301, et seq., under
- 5 chapter 208, RSMo, and the health insurance for uninsured children under sections 208.631 to
- 6 208.657, RSMo, at the time such health care services were administered, and such person has

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

failed to pay for such services for a period greater than ninety days, may submit a claim to the director of the department of health and senior services for the unpaid health care services. The director of the department of health and senior services shall review such claim. If the claim appears meritorious on its face, the claim for the unpaid medical services shall constitute a debt of the department of health and senior services for purposes of sections 143.782 to 143.788, and the director may certify the debt to the department of revenue in order to set off the debtor's income tax refund. Once the debt has been certified, the director of the department of health and senior services shall submit the debt to the department of revenue under the setoff procedure established under section 143.783.

- 2. At the time of certification, the director of the department of health and senior services shall supply any information necessary to identify each debtor whose refund is sought to be set off pursuant to section 143.784 and certify the amount of the debt or debts owed by each such debtor.
- 3. If a debtor identified by the director of the department of health and senior services is determined by the department of revenue to be entitled to a refund, the department of revenue shall notify the department of health and senior services that a refund has been set off on behalf of the department of health and senior services for purposes of this section and shall certify the amount of such setoff, which shall not exceed the amount of the claimed debt certified. When the refund owed exceeds the claimed debt, the department shall send the excess amount to the debtor within a reasonable time after such excess is determined.
- 4. The department of revenue shall notify the debtor by certified mail the taxpayer whose refund is sought to be set off that such setoff will be made. The notice shall contain the provisions contained in subsection 3 of section 143.794, including the opportunity for a hearing to contest the setoff provided therein, and shall otherwise substantially comply with the provisions of subsection 3 of section 143.784.
- 5. Once a debt has been set off and finally determined under the applicable provisions of sections 143.782 to 143.788, and the department of health and senior services has received the funds transferred from the department of revenue, the department of health and senior services shall settle with each hospital or health care provider for the amounts that the department of revenue set off for such party. At the time of each settlement, each hospital or health care provider shall be charged for administration expenses which shall not exceed twenty percent of the collected amount.
- 6. Lottery prize payouts made under section 313.321, RSMo, shall also be subject to the setoff procedures established in this section and any rules and regulations promulgated thereto.
- 7. The director of the department of revenue shall have priority to offset any delinquent tax owed to the state of Missouri. Any remaining refund shall be offset to pay a state agency

debt or to meet a child support obligation that is enforced by the division of family services on behalf of a person who is receiving support enforcement services under section 454.425, RSMo.

- 8.] As used in this section, the following terms shall mean:
- (1) "Appeals committee", a committee consisting of at least three people appointed by a provider to hear patient appeals of review officer rulings:
 - (a) That the provider has a valid claim;
 - (b) Regarding the amount of the claim;
 - (c) That a claim qualifies as an eligible claim under this section;
- (2) "Collection assistance fee", a fee in the amount of fourteen dollars payable to the general fund of this state for each debt setoff being processed and an additional seventeen dollars payable to the claim clearinghouse for each debt being processed by the claim clearinghouse shall be recovered from each eligible claim to recover the costs incurred in collecting debts under this section;
- (3) "Court", the supreme court, court of appeals, or any circuit court of the state, or any of their judicially or legislatively created subdivisions;
 - (4) "Department", the department of revenue;
- (5) "Claim", a claim by a provider to receive payment of fifty dollars or more for health care services provided by such provider to a patient which has not been paid in whole or in part by the patient or third party payer for more than ninety days after the date the patient was first billed for such health care services;
- (6) "Claim clearinghouse", the entity selected by the department to receive and submit eligible claims on behalf of a provider in accordance with this section. The claim clearinghouse shall be selected by the department through use of and in compliance with the applicable requirements of chapter 34;
- (7) "Health care services", any services that a provider renders to a patient in the course of such provider's furnishing of ambulance services to the patient. Health care services shall include, but not be limited to, treatment of patients and transporting of patients incidental or pursuant to the delivery of ambulance services by a provider or in furtherance of the purposes for which such provider is organized and licensed, provided that with respect to ground ambulance services provided by a provider that is not owned and operated by a city, county, municipality, political subdivision, governmental entity, or an entity that is exempt from federal and state income taxation, health care services shall only include those ground ambulance services provided by the provider that qualify and emergency services as defined in section 190.100 and are provided under the terms of an agreement between the provider and a city, county, municipality, political subdivision, or a governmental entity under section 190.105;

(8) "Patient", an individual who has received health care services from a provider and who was not, at the time such health care services were provided, eligible to receive benefits under the state's medical assistance program for needy persons under chapter 208 and the health insurance for uninsured children under sections 208.631 to 208.657;

- (9) "Provider", any provider of ambulance services licensed by the Missouri department of health and senior services in accordance with chapter 190, to include but not be limited to any provider of air ambulance services licensed under section 190.108 and any provider of ground ambulance services licensed under section 190.109;
- (10) "Refund", a patient's Missouri income tax refund which the department determines to be due under the provisions of this chapter;
- (11) "Review officer", a person designated by a provider to review claims, at the request of a patient, to determine whether such provider has a valid claim, the amount of such claim, and whether such claim qualifies as an eligible claim under this section.
- 2. Prior to submission of a claim to the claim clearinghouse, a provider shall send written notice to a patient that such provider intends to submit a claim to the claim clearinghouse for collection by setoff under this section. The notice shall:
 - (1) Provide the basis for the claim;
- (2) State that the provider intends to request that the department apply the patient's refund against the claim;
- (3) State that a collection assistance fee will be added to the claim if it is submitted for setoff;
- (4) Inform the patient of the right to contest the validity or amount of such claim by filing a request for a review with the provider; and
- (5) State the time limit and procedure for requesting such review, and that failure to request a review within thirty days following receipt of the notice required under this section shall result in submission of the claim to the claim clearinghouse for setoff of the debt by the department.
- 3. Upon receipt of the notice required under subsection 2 of this section, any patient seeking review of a claim with the provider shall file a written request for review within thirty days of receipt of such notice. A request for a review shall be deemed filed when properly addressed and delivered to the United States Postal Service for mailing with postage prepaid. A review officer shall be appointed by the provider to review such claim. In reviewing a claim, any issue that has previously been litigated in a court proceeding shall not be considered by the review officer. If the patient seeks a review of the claim and the review officer finds either that the claim is invalid or the claim does not qualify as an eligible claim under this section, the review officer's determination shall be final and

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115 binding on the provider and such provider shall have no right to appeal such 116 determination. If all or part of the claim is found by the review officer to be valid and eligible for setoff under this section, the review officer shall notify the provider and the 118 patient of such fact. Such notice shall:

- (1) Inform the patient that the patient has the right to appeal the review officer's determination by filing an appeal with the appeals committee;
 - (2) State the time limit and procedure for requesting such an appeal; and
- (3) State that failure to request the appeal within thirty days following receipt of the notice required under this subsection shall result in submission of the claim to the claim clearinghouse for setoff of the debt by the department.
- 4. Upon receipt of the notice required under subsection 3 of this section, any patient seeking an appeal of a determination of a review officer under this section shall file a written request for such appeal within thirty days following receipt of such notice. An appeal shall be deemed filed when properly addressed and delivered to the United States Postal Service for mailing with postage prepaid. An appeal of a review officer's determination shall be heard by an appeals committee. In an appeal under this section, any issue that has been previously litigated in a court proceeding shall not be considered. A decision made after an appeal under this section shall determine whether a claim is owed to the provider, the amount of the claim, and whether the claim is an eligible claim under this section.
- 5. If the appeals committee finds a claim to be invalid or otherwise ineligible under this section, the decision of the appeals committee shall be final and binding on the provider and may not be appealed by the provider. If all or part of the claim is found by the appeals committee to be valid and eligible for setoff under this section, the appeals committee shall notify the provider and the patient of such fact. Such notice shall:
- (1) Inform the patient that the patient has the right to challenge the appeals committee determination by notifying the provider that it disagrees with the determination and advising the provider as to the basis of such disagreement;
- (2) State that the patient must notify the provider of the challenge within ninety days of the patient's receipt of the notice from the appeals committee;
- (3) Advise the patient that if the patient challenges the appeals committee's determination under this subsection, the provider will not be permitted to setoff the provider's claim against the patient's refund under this section unless and until the provider files suit against the patient in court seeking a determination that the provider's claim is valid regarding the amount of the claim and that the claim is eligible for setoff under this section, and the court determines that the provider's claim is valid, the amount

of the provider's claim, and that provider's claim is eligible for setoff under this section; and

- (4) Advise the patient that if the patient does not challenge the appeal committee's determination under this subsection, the provider will submit the claim to the claim clearinghouse for setoff by the department under this subsection.
- 6. If the provider prevails in the lawsuit filed under subsection 5 of this section, the provider may submit the claim to the claim clearinghouse for setoff by the department under this section. If the patient prevails in the lawsuit filed by the provider under subsection 5 of this section, the provider shall be:
- (1) Forever barred from submitting the claim to the claim clearinghouse for setoff by the department under this section;
- (2) Forever barred from taking any other steps to collect the amount of the claim from the patient; and
- (3) Obligated to reimburse the patient for court costs and attorney's fees associated with the lawsuit filed under subsection 5 of this section.
- 7. Any provider may submit a claim to the claim clearinghouse for review. In connection with its submission of a claim to the claim clearinghouse, the provider, whenever possible, shall provide the claim clearinghouse with the patient's full name, Social Security number, address, and any other identifying information that the department advises the claim clearinghouse is necessary for the department to set off the claim under this section. The provider shall also provide the claim clearinghouse with information demonstrating the provider's compliance with the requirements of this section with respect to the claim.
- 8. If the claim clearinghouse receives sufficient evidence that a provider has fully complied with the requirements of this section and finds the claim valid, the claim shall be deemed eligible for setoff by the department under this section and shall be forwarded to the department. In connection with its submission of the claim to the department, the claim clearinghouse, whenever possible, shall provide the department with the patient's full name, Social Security number, address, and any other identifying information that the department advises the claim clearinghouse is necessary for the department to setoff the claim under this section.
- 9. If the claim clearinghouse determines that the provider has failed to comply with any applicable requirements in this section or that the claim is not valid, the claim clearinghouse shall return the claim to the provider.
- 10. If the department determines that a patient identified by a provider in an eligible claim filed with the department is entitled to a refund, the department shall notify

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the claim clearinghouse that a refund is available for setoff and the amount of such refund, and whether the refund results from a joint or combined return. Notwithstanding any provision of section 32.057 and any other confidentiality statute of this state to the contrary, the department may provide the claim clearinghouse with all information necessary to accomplish and carry out the provisions of this section and section 143.789, but shall not provide the claim clearinghouse with any information whose disclosure is prohibited by Section 6103(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. The information obtained by the claim clearinghouse from the department in accordance with this section and section 143.789 shall retain its confidentiality and shall only be used by the claim clearinghouse for the purpose described in this section and section 143.789.

- 11. (1) At that time, the department shall also notify the patient by regular mail that setoff against the patient's tax refund has been authorized under this section. The notice shall include the following information:
 - (a) The amount of the eligible claim and the name of the provider seeking setoff;
- (b) That a setoff to the patient's refund against the eligible claim has been performed; and
 - (c) Any amount of the refund remaining after the offset of the eligible claim.
- (2) In the case of a joint or combined return, the notice shall also state the name of the nonobligated taxpayer named in the return, if any, against whom no claim is asserted, the fact that no claim is asserted against such taxpayer, and the fact that such taxpayer is entitled to receive a refund if it is due the taxpayer regardless of the claim asserted against the taxpayer's spouse. In order to obtain the refund due the taxpayer, the taxpayer shall apply in writing for an apportionment of the refund with the department within thirty days of the date of receipt of the notice unless, in anticipation of the setoff of the taxpayer's spouse's refund, such nonobligated taxpayer provided the department with a request for apportionment of the anticipated refund which was filed at the same time the original tax return was filed, in which case the department shall determine the apportionment of the refund and forward the determination of apportionment and the nonobligated taxpayer's portion of the refund to the nonobligated taxpayer within fifteen working days of the transfer of the obligated taxpayer's portion of the refund to the claim clearinghouse. Unless a request for apportionment of the anticipated refund was provided to the department as provided in this section, within ninety days after the filing of such taxpayer's application for apportionment of the refund with the department a determination of apportionment shall be mailed to the nonobligated taxpayer by the department. The apportionment of the refund shall be final upon the expiration of thirty days from the date on which the determination of apportionment is mailed to the

223 nonobligated taxpayer unless, within such thirty-day period, the nonobligated taxpayer 224 applies in writing for a hearing with the department.

- 12. The department shall then pay to the claim clearinghouse the amount that the department has setoff for such provider, which shall include the collection assistance allocable to the claim clearinghouse. In the event the department is unable to setoff the entire eligible claim and collection assistance fee under this section, the setoff of the collection assistance fee shall have priority over the setoff of the eligible claim. If, after the department has paid to the claim clearinghouse the amount that the department has setoff for the provider, the provider is found not to have complied with any applicable requirement of this section, the provider shall send to the patient the entire amount of the claim offset by the department for the provider plus an amount equal to the collection assistance fee.
- **13.** In addition to refunds, lottery prize payouts made under section 313.321 shall 236 be subject to the setoff procedures established in this section.
 - 14. The director of the department of revenue and the director of the department of health and senior services shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to administer the provisions of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2007, shall be invalid and void.
 - 302.302. 1. The director of revenue shall put into effect a point system for the suspension and revocation of licenses. Points shall be assessed only after a conviction or forfeiture of collateral. The initial point value is as follows:

 - - (4) Careless and imprudent driving in violation of subsection 4 of section

14	304.016
15	In violation of a county or municipal ordinance
16	(5) Operating without a valid license in violation of subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection
17	1 of section 302.020:
18	(a) For the first conviction
19	(b) For the second conviction 4 points
20	(c) For the third conviction 6 points
21	(6) Operating with a suspended or revoked license prior to restoration of operating
22	privileges
23	(7) Obtaining a license by misrepresentation
24	(8) For the first conviction of driving while in an intoxicated condition or under the
25	influence of controlled substances or drugs
26	(9) For the second or subsequent conviction of any of the following offenses however
27	combined: driving while in an intoxicated condition, driving under the influence of controlled
28	substances or drugs or driving with a blood alcohol content of eight-hundredths of one percent
29	or more by weight
30	(10) For the first conviction for driving with blood alcohol content eight-hundredths of
31	one percent or more by weight
32	In violation of state law
33	In violation of a county or municipal ordinance or federal law or regulation 8 points
34	(11) Any felony involving the use of a motor vehicle
35	(12) Knowingly permitting unlicensed operator to operate a motor vehicle 4 points
36	(13) For a conviction for failure to maintain financial responsibility pursuant to
37	county or municipal ordinance or pursuant to section 303.025
38	(14) Endangerment of a highway worker in violation of section 304.585 4 points
39	(15) Aggravated endangerment of a highway worker in violation of section
40	304.585
41	(16) For a conviction of violating a municipal ordinance that prohibits tow truck
42	operators from stopping at or proceeding to the scene of an accident unless they have been
43	requested to stop or proceed to such scene by a party involved in such accident or by an officer
44	of a public safety agency
45	(17) Endangerment of an emergency responder in violation of section
46	304.894
47	(18) Aggravated endangerment of an emergency responder in violation of section
48	304.894

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2. The director shall, as provided in subdivision (5) of subsection 1 of this section, assess an operator points for a conviction pursuant to subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection 1 of section 302.020, when the director issues such operator a license or permit pursuant to the provisions of sections 302.010 to 302.340.

- 3. An additional two points shall be assessed when personal injury or property damage results from any violation listed in subdivisions (1) to (13) of subsection 1 of this section and if found to be warranted and certified by the reporting court.
- 4. When any of the acts listed in subdivision (2), (3), (4) or (8) of subsection 1 of this section constitutes both a violation of a state law and a violation of a county or municipal ordinance, points may be assessed for either violation but not for both. Notwithstanding that an offense arising out of the same occurrence could be construed to be a violation of subdivisions (8), (9) and (10) of subsection 1 of this section, no person shall be tried or convicted for more than one offense pursuant to subdivisions (8), (9) and (10) of subsection 1 of this section for offenses arising out of the same occurrence.
- 5. The director of revenue shall put into effect a system for staying the assessment of points against an operator. The system shall provide that the satisfactory completion of a driver-improvement program or, in the case of violations committed while operating a motorcycle, a motorcycle-rider training course approved by the state highways and transportation commission, by an operator, when so ordered and verified by any court having jurisdiction over any law of this state or county or municipal ordinance, regulating motor vehicles, other than a violation committed in a commercial motor vehicle as defined in section 302.700 or a violation committed by an individual who has been issued a commercial driver's license or is required to obtain a commercial driver's license in this state or any other state, shall be accepted by the director in lieu of the assessment of points for a violation pursuant to subdivision (1), (2) or (4) of subsection 1 of this section or pursuant to subsection 3 of this section. A court using a centralized violation bureau established under section 476.385 may elect to have the bureau order and verify completion of a driver-improvement program or motorcycle-rider training course as prescribed by order of the court. For the purposes of this subsection, the driver-improvement program shall meet or exceed the standards of the National Safety Council's eight-hour "Defensive Driving Course" or, in the case of a violation which occurred during the operation of a motorcycle, the program shall meet the standards established by the state highways and transportation commission pursuant to sections 302.133 to 302.137. The completion of a driver-improvement program or a motorcycle-rider training course shall not be accepted in lieu of points more than one time in any thirty-six-month period and shall be completed within sixty days of the date of conviction in order to be accepted in lieu of the assessment of points. Every court having jurisdiction pursuant to the provisions of this subsection shall, within fifteen days

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after completion of the driver-improvement program or motorcycle-rider training course by an 86 operator, forward a record of the completion to the director, all other provisions of the law to the 87 contrary notwithstanding. The director shall establish procedures for record keeping and the 88 administration of this subsection.

302.291. 1. The director, having good cause to believe that an operator is incompetent or unqualified to retain his or her license, after giving ten days' notice in writing by certified mail directed to such person's present known address, may require the person to submit to an examination as prescribed by the director. Upon conclusion of the examination, the director may allow the person to retain his or her license, may suspend, deny or revoke the person's license, or may issue the person a license subject to restrictions as provided in section 302.301. If an examination indicates a condition that potentially impairs safe driving, the director, in addition to action with respect to the license, may require the person to submit to further periodic examinations. The refusal or neglect of the person to submit to an examination within thirty days 10 after the date of such notice shall be grounds for suspension, denial or revocation of the person's license by the director, an associate circuit or circuit court. Notice of any suspension, denial, 12 revocation or other restriction shall be provided by certified mail. As used in this section, the term "denial" means the act of not licensing a person who is currently suspended, revoked or otherwise not licensed to operate a motor vehicle. Denial may also include the act of withdrawing a previously issued license.

- 2. The examination provided for in subsection 1 of this section may include, but is not limited to, a written test and tests of driving skills, vision, highway sign recognition and, if appropriate, a physical and/or mental examination as provided in section 302.173.
- 3. The director shall have good cause to believe that an operator is incompetent or unqualified to retain such person's license on the basis of, but not limited to, a report by:
 - (1) Any certified peace officer;
- (2) Any physician, physical therapist or occupational therapist licensed pursuant to chapter 334; any chiropractic physician licensed pursuant to chapter 331; any registered nurse licensed pursuant to chapter 335; any psychologist, social worker or professional counselor licensed pursuant to chapter 337; any optometrist licensed pursuant to chapter 336; any emergency medical technician licensed pursuant to chapter 190; or
- (3) Any member of the operator's family within three degrees of consanguinity, or the operator's spouse, who has reached the age of eighteen, except that no person may report the same family member pursuant to this section more than one time during a twelve-month period. The report must state that the person reasonably and in good faith believes the driver cannot safely operate a motor vehicle and must be based upon personal observation or physical evidence which shall be described in the report, or the report shall be based upon an investigation by a law

enforcement officer. The report shall be a written declaration in the form prescribed by the department of revenue and shall contain the name, address, telephone number, and signature of the person making the report.

- 4. Any physician, physical therapist or occupational therapist licensed pursuant to chapter 334, any chiropractor licensed pursuant to chapter 331, any registered nurse licensed pursuant to chapter 335, any psychologist, social worker or professional counselor licensed pursuant to chapter 337, or any optometrist licensed pursuant to chapter 336, or any emergency medical technician licensed pursuant to chapter 190 may report to the department any patient diagnosed or assessed as having a disorder or condition that may prevent such person from safely operating a motor vehicle. Such report shall state the diagnosis or assessment and whether the condition is permanent or temporary. The existence of a physician-patient relationship shall not prevent the making of a report by such medical professionals.
- 5. Any person who makes a report in good faith pursuant to this section shall be immune from any civil liability that otherwise might result from making the report. Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 610 to the contrary, all reports made and all medical records reviewed and maintained by the department of revenue pursuant to this section shall be kept confidential except upon order of a court of competent jurisdiction or in a review of the director's action pursuant to section 302.311.
- 6. The department of revenue shall keep records and statistics of reports made and actions taken against driver's licenses pursuant to this section.
- 7. The department of revenue shall, in consultation with the medical advisory board established by section 302.292, develop a standardized form and provide guidelines for the reporting of cases and for the examination of drivers pursuant to this section. The guidelines shall be published and adopted as required for rules and regulations pursuant to chapter 536. The department of revenue shall also adopt rules and regulations as necessary to carry out the other provisions of this section. The director of revenue shall provide health care professionals and law enforcement officers with information about the procedures authorized in this section. The guidelines and regulations implementing this section shall be in compliance with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.
- 8. Any person who knowingly violates a confidentiality provision of this section or who knowingly permits or encourages the unauthorized use of a report or reporting person's name in violation of this section shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor and shall be liable for damages which proximately result.
- 9. Any person who intentionally files a false report pursuant to this section shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor and shall be liable for damages which proximately result.

10. All appeals of license revocations, suspensions, denials and restrictions shall be made as required pursuant to section 302.311 within thirty days after the receipt of the notice of revocation, suspension, denial or restriction.

11. Any individual whose condition is temporary in nature as reported pursuant to the provisions of subsection 4 of this section shall have the right to petition the director of the department of revenue for total or partial reinstatement of his or her license. Such request shall be made on a form prescribed by the department of revenue and accompanied by a statement from a health care provider with the same or similar license as the health care provider who made the initial report resulting in the limitation or loss of the driver's license. Such petition shall be decided by the director of the department of revenue within thirty days of receipt of the petition. Such decision by the director is appealable pursuant to subsection 10 of this section.

304.890. As used in sections 304.890 to 304.894, the following terms shall mean:

- (1) "Active emergency", any incident occurring on a highway, as the term "highway" is defined in section 302.010, that requires emergency services from any emergency responder;
- (2) "Active emergency zone", any area upon or around any highway, which is visibly marked by emergency responders performing work for the purpose of emergency response, and where an active emergency, or incident removal, is temporarily occurring. This area includes the lanes of highway leading up to an active emergency or incident removal, beginning within three hundred feet of visual sighting of:
- (a) Appropriate signs or traffic control devices posted or placed by emergency responders; or
 - (b) An emergency vehicle displaying active emergency lights or signals;
- (3) "Emergency responder", any law enforcement officer, paid or volunteer firefighter, first responder, emergency medical worker, tow truck operator, or other emergency personnel responding to an emergency on a highway.
- 304.892. 1. Upon the first conviction, finding of guilt, or plea of guilty by any person for a moving violation, as the term "moving violation" is defined in section 302.010, or any offense listed in section 302.302, other than a violation described in subsection 2 of this section, when the violation or offense occurs within an active emergency zone, the court shall assess a fine of thirty-five dollars in addition to any other fine authorized by law. Upon a second or subsequent conviction, finding of guilt, or plea of guilty, the court shall assess a fine of seventy-five dollars in addition to any other fine authorized by law.
- 2. Upon the first conviction, finding of guilt, or plea of guilty by any person for a speeding violation under either section 304.009 or 304.010, or a passing violation under subsection 3 of this section, when the violation or offense occurs within an active

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emergency zone and emergency responders were present in such zone at the time of the offense or violation, the court shall assess a fine of two hundred fifty dollars in addition to any other fine authorized by law. Upon a second or subsequent conviction, finding of guilt, or plea of guilty, the court shall assess a fine of three hundred dollars in addition to any other fine authorized by law. However, no person assessed an additional fine under this subsection shall also be assessed an additional fine under subsection 1 of this section.

- 3. The driver of a motor vehicle may not overtake or pass another motor vehicle within an active emergency zone. Violation of this subsection is a class C misdemeanor.
- 4. The additional fines imposed by this section shall not be construed to enhance the assessment of court costs or the assessment of points under section 302.302.
- 304.894. 1. A person commits the offense of endangerment of an emergency responder for any of the following offenses when the offense occurs within an active emergency zone:
 - (1) Exceeding the posted speed limit by fifteen miles per hour or more;
 - (2) Passing in violation of subsection 3 of section 304.892;
- (3) Failure to stop for an active emergency zone flagman or emergency responder, or failure to obey traffic control devices erected, or personnel posted, in the active emergency zone for purposes of controlling the flow of motor vehicles through the zone;
- (4) Driving through or around an active emergency zone via any lane not clearly designated for motorists to control the flow of traffic through or around the active emergency zone;
- (5) Physically assaulting, attempting to assault, or threatening to assault an emergency responder with a motor vehicle or other instrument;
- (6) Intentionally striking, moving, or altering barrels, barriers, signs, or other devices erected to control the flow of traffic to protect emergency responders and motorists unless the action was necessary to avoid an obstacle, an emergency, or to protect the health and safety of an occupant of the motor vehicle or of another person; or
- 18 (7) Committing any of the following offenses for which points may be assessed 19 under section 302.302:
 - (a) Leaving the scene of an accident in violation of section 577.060;
 - (b) Careless and imprudent driving in violation of subsection 4 of section 304.016;
- (c) Operating without a valid license in violation of subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection 1 of section 302.020;
 - (d) Operating with a suspended or revoked license;
- 25 (e) Driving while in an intoxicated condition or under the influence of controlled 26 substances or drugs or driving with an excessive blood alcohol content;

- (f) Any felony involving the use of a motor vehicle.
- 2. Upon a finding of guilt or a plea of guilty for committing the offense of endangerment of an emergency responder under subsection 1 of this section, if no injury or death to an emergency responder resulted from the offense, the court shall assess a fine of not more than one thousand dollars, and four points shall be assessed to the operator's license pursuant to section 302.302.
- 3. A person commits the offense of aggravated endangerment of an emergency responder upon a finding of guilt or a plea of guilty for any offense under subsection 1 of this section when such offense results in the injury or death of an emergency responder. Upon a finding of guilt or a plea of guilty for committing the offense of aggravated endangerment of an emergency responder, in addition to any other penalty authorized by law, the court shall assess a fine of not more than five thousand dollars if the offense resulted in injury to an emergency responder, and ten thousand dollars if the offense resulted in the death of an emergency responder. In addition, twelve points shall be assessed to the operator's license pursuant to section 302.302.
- 4. Except for the offense established under subdivision (6) of subsection 1 of this section, no person shall be deemed to have committed the offense of endangerment of an emergency responder except when the act or omission constituting the offense occurred when one or more emergency responders were responding to an active emergency.
- 5. No person shall be cited for, or found guilty of, endangerment of an emergency responder or aggravated endangerment of an emergency responder, for any act or omission otherwise constituting an offense under subsection 1 of this section, if such act or omission resulted in whole or in part from mechanical failure of the person's vehicle, or from the negligence of another person or emergency responder.

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